


ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET				
SUBJECT: (Optional) Monthly Report -- Okinawa Bureau				
FROM: Chief, Operations Group		EXTENSION 3-5991	NO. DATE November 1987	
TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED		
1. C/Ops	24 Dec		B	AC per
2.				
3. AC/E&PS	24 Dec		dw	
4. DD/FBIS				
5. D/FBIS	24 Dec		R	
6.				
7. PO/RA	12/24		om	
8. SA/CD	12/28		Eat	
9. DD/FBIS	12/29		G	
10. C/AS	30 Dec		PD	7
11. C/E&PS	1 Jan		I	
12. C/AG	4 JAN 5/1		oe ru	
13. Admin Staff			oe	
14. C/B&F			MM	
15. Exec. Reg.				

FBIS 5001-87
4 December 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
FROM:
Chief, Okinawa Bureau
SUBJECT: Monthly Report - Okinawa Bureau - November 1987

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I. GENERAL

A. The U.S. dollar fell to Yen 132.45 to \$1.00 on 30 November, historically the lowest rate since the post war 1948 fixing of the yen at 360 to \$1.00. The dollar's weakness led to raising Okinawa's Post or Cost of Living Allowance class to 30 effective 11 November, the highest it has ever been. We are reviewing our FY-1988 current budget--updated at Yen 140 to \$1.00 as recently as July--for areas where we can save or postpone nonpersonnel expenses, in the light of Headquarters warnings of tight funds. The only ray of sunshine in bureau operating costs was a press report that new Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita will propose during his first, January visit to Washington that Japan bear a greater share of Master Labor Contract employee costs for U.S. Forces Japan, which would include FBIS. We have no specifics yet on precisely how much larger the GOJ share might be; presently the GOJ contributes only to certain MLC allowances and a share of retirement severance payments.

B. The bureau's FBA-1 computer system was declared initially operational on 6 November, a week later than originally scheduled, after most of the bugs were swatted away and despite ongoing problems with the press agency module design and its slow functions. The system itself appeared to enjoy an informal champagne IOC celebration in the editorial section attended by all on-duty staff, for in the weekend immediately following, editors were able to catch up with much of the huge backlog of materials--mostly XINHUA English--that had built up since the 13th CPC Congress. We continue to study, along with ESG/ADD, ways to improve and speed press agency processing through faster access to items, avoiding changes from one program mode to another, and dealing with the large stored backlogs of item files that slow the whole retrieval process. We still use paper printouts to protect against system failures, for selection and some editing, as workloads dictate, but use FBA as much as possible. Our last post-delivery support person, LEC's departed on 25 November in time for a U.S. Thanksgiving.

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C. The first new FBIS Okinawa housing in 20 years was turned over to FBIS for occupancy on 30 November after final inspections

by Corps of Engineers and FBIS and the correction of minor deficiencies. The new building is a 3-bedroom, single-story duplex that replaces the last of the ancient and original 1948 Quonset huts once occupied by early FBIS pioneers. In addition, the first two renovated 4-bedroom houses were also completed, of seven such units contracted for rehabilitation. A third requiring roof repairs should be available shortly. We plan to relocate families in the next few weeks so that the remaining four 4-bedroom houses in this first contract can be renovated in the next few months.

D. Former Okinawa Chief [] paid his first visit to Okinawa as FBIS deputy director 15-18 November, accompanied by Chief, Operations Group, [] for discussion of FBIS and bureau issues and outlooks and conversations with individual employees, and meetings with U.S. military commanders. They were honored guests at a Sunday evening cocktail buffet for U.S. military and Japanese contacts, and at a relaxed hamburger/hot dog picnic with all bureau employees on Monday, 16 November. They brought some welcome sunshine with them, but not their suitcases--delayed by tight connections in Taipei.

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II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. First tests of our new Thai-made 4.5-meter "RAMSAT" ROSET against the 63E Intelsat that carries Beijing satellite TV indicate this dish cannot bring in the signal well enough to use for Beijing TV. We modified RAMSAT's elevation screw, buying a longer screw locally to permit aiming the dish low enough (16 degrees, against its original 30 degrees lowest elevation) to see the 63E, but the satellite's low position on the horizon meant signals were too weak for good Beijing TV reception. Presently we are aligning RAMSAT for peak reception on the 140E Gorizont for Moscow TV Orbita 1. This restores some flexibility lost when Pesos was destroyed by Typhoon Dinah in August. RAMSAT brings in Moscow TV as well or better than Pesos.

2. We received some 35 inquiries replying to our local newspaper advertisements for a Japanese-English monitor, including telephone queries from Tokyo by a former Yomitan local girl, and began interviewing and testing the eight best at month-end. If we find a qualified candidate, we will seek to hire as replacement in anticipation of future retirements.

3. Our short-handed Japanese Section had another busy month as Japan's government changed leaders. We did a final TV press conference by retiring Yasuhiro Nakasone on 4 November, and initial press interviews with new Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, as well as his first Diet policy speech on 27 November. Japanese/Korean senior monitor [] TDY stay in Seoul was extended to 19 December so that he can assist in coverage of the 16 December ROK election.

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4. Chinese monitors kept busy with the closing of the 13th CPC Congress on 1 November after 8 days of meetings. We provided live Beijing TV coverage of the closing and texts of work reports by various commissions and final press conferences, as well as ensuing politburo meetings at which Zhao Ziyang resigned as acting premier and Li Peng took over that role. The bureau chief commended all staff involved in the Congress coverage, and AC/Ops expressed appreciation to HK and OW for "exhaustive efforts" with this event.

5. We negotiated with Hong Kong Bureau, Ops and NEAD/JPRS a new way of handling HK contractor-translated imperishable articles from the CPC journal HONGQI, in light of FBA installations at HK and OW that left these as a major unkeyed input source. The revised procedure calls for HK's contractors with PC's to do them on express-mailed PC diskettes for input and editing by JPRS, rather than paper editing and first keying at Okinawa, saving OW teleops a large volume of rekeying, as well as large-volume faxing from HK to OW.

B. Cruising

Despite limited 10-meter ROSET time, our cruisers located Moscow TV-1 on both the 140E and 90E Soviet satellites for the first time, and printed satellite TASS Cyrillic services--evidently feeder transmissions on the 80E bird--and pouched the printouts to MOD for further study. They also filed followup reports on Moscow International and Radio Peace and Progress fall/winter schedules and frequencies, as well as new international schedules for Tokyo, Seoul, and Taipei international services.

C. Communications

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D. Technical

1. Bureau technicians assembled our new "RAMSAT" 4.5-meter ROSET in 2 days without the benefit of instructions or photographs that arrived later. Unbeknownst to them, the Thai

supplier lettered the dish segments so that the Thai name "SAMART" could be spelled out. Regional engineer [] decided, without knowing of the intended Thai name, that "RAMSAT" had a powerful, macho ring to it that might help it withstand future Okinawa typhoons (the new dish is in fact considerably heavier than Pesos, which makes it considerably more difficult to reposition). We also considered names such as ARMSAT (hand-movable), MARSAT (for our seacoast location), MASRAT (for local fauna), ARTSAM (for Deutschophiles) and even ARSMAT (think about it!).

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2. Considerable technical time was spent on followup training of the communicators/system administrators and practice in procedures for FBA-1 file server purging, reloading, and file server backup procedures, much of it related to the press agency module.

E. Lateral Services

At the request of the BBCMS General Manager, we express-mailed to MOD for copying and passing to BBC a Moscow TV monthly feature videotape of "Man, Earth and Universe" for a BBC consumer interested in Soviet space activity. The U.S. Defense Mapping Agency section receiving our Vladivostok navigational warning materials--passed in untranslated romanized Russian without bureau processing--complained about nonreceipt of this service shortly after FBA-1 was installed. We have removed this service from FBA, which cannot handle it due to nonstandard start/end message format, and will continue to provide the service outside FBA through a "black box" chip that converts the characters for use by DMA. Poor reception recently also has hurt this service.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. New Chinese monitor-trainee [] arrived from Taipei on 3 November to begin training. Monitor [] gave written notice he will resign on 17 December after one year of service. We have requested EOD approval for two more Chinese monitor candidates, [] of Manila, with both Chinese and Tagalog ability, and [] of Taipei, who are expected to EOD early in 1988.

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2. Administrative officer [] and family departed Okinawa 25 November for delayed home leave in the U.S. just two months after arriving, following his direct transfer and Hqs TDY in August and September. He will return 29 December. Logs officer [] and wife [] returned from CONUS R&R on 6 November.

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IV. VISITORS

To the Bureau:

[] C/FSB/FED, from 1-6 November, for bureau familiarization and modem communications tests; DD/FBIS [] and C/Ops [] 15-18 November, for management inspection visit; and [] DC/FED, 18-21 November for orientation and communications discussions.

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From the Bureau:

Lockeed Electronics contractors [] departed 7 November. [] on 11 November, [] on 14 November, and [] on 25 November; ADD acceptance representative [] departed on 7 November after IOC of FBA-1; DD/FBIS, C/Ops and bureau chief to 313th Air Division commander Brig.Gen Peter D. Robinson and to III Marine Amphibious Force deputy commander Brig.Gen. Robert B. Johnston on 16 November; bureau chief, regional engineer and [] to DODSpecRep Okinawa Charles Gibson on 19 November, and to Lt. Col. Jack Trotter, commander of U.S. Army Informations Systems Command Battalion, Fort Buckner, on 20 November.

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v. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Editor [] demonstrated her thespian talents by assuming various roles in "An Evening With Carol Burnett" presented at Kadena Air Base's "TGIF Theater" at the Schilling Recreation Center on 27-28 November, her second such performance of the fall season.

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ATTACHMENTS:

Production Report

OKINAWA BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 1987

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 986,690
 TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 517,950
 TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH: 2,624

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	21,225 min.	17,280 min.	175.79 issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:

CAMBODIA

Phnom Penh SPK in
 English

CHINA

Beijing International Service to East and South Africa in English	500
Beijing International Service to North America in English	500
Beijing International Service in Japanese	520
Beijing International Service in Korean	18,130
Beijing International Service in Mandarin	---
Beijing to Taiwan in Mandarin	---
Beijing to the USSR in Russian	3,410
Beijing Domestic Service in Mandarin	20,420
Beijing Television Service in Mandarin	6,630
Fuzhou Fujian Provincial Service in Mandarin	2,680
Hangzhou Zhejiang Provincial Service in Mandarin	2,630
Hefei Anhui Provincial Service in Mandarin	3,840
Nanchang Jiangxi Provincial Service in Mandarin	7,530
Nanjing Jiangsu Provincial Service in Mandarin	6,040
Shanghai City Service in Mandarin	4,430

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Beijing HONGQI in Chinese			63,100
Beijing XINHUA in English		426,490	
Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese		130,420	
Beijing BEIJING REVIEW in English			10,180
Fuzhou FUJIAN RIBAO in Chinese			1,770
Hefei ANHUI RIBAO in Chinese			---
Hangzhou ZHEJIANG RIBAO in Chinese			1,470
Nanjing XINHUA RIBAO in Chinese			6,020
Shanghai JIEFANG RIBAO in Chinese			1,140
Shanghai WEN HUI BAO in Chinese			800
Miscellaneous Editorial Reports	2,050		
JAPAN			
Naha Radio NHK in Japanese	270		
Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese	16,700		
Tokyo JPS in English		1,080	
Tokyo KYODO in English		108,930	
Tokyo JIJI in English		5,650	
Tokyo AKAHATA in Japanese			900
Tokyo ASAHI SHIMBUN in Japanese			4,010
Tokyo ASAHI EVENING NEWS in English			10,800
Tokyo JAPAN ECONOMIC JOURNAL in English			2,340
Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English			13,480

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Tokyo MAINICHI SHIMBUN in Japanese			1,610
Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese			3,930
Tokyo SANKEI SHIMBUN in Japanese			---
Tokyo THE DAILY YOMIURI in English			9,820
Tokyo THE JAPAN TIMES in English			10,820
Tokyo TOKYO SHIMBUN in Japanese			---
Tokyo YOMIURI SHIMBUN in Japanese			5,360
Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese			710
Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese			---
KOREA (NORTH)			
Pyongyang KCNA in English		140	
LAOS			
Vientiane KPL in English			---
MONGOLIA			
Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English		1,110	
Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian		8,620	
TAIWAN			
Taipei International Service in English	5,030		
Taipei Domestic Service in Mandarin	2,380		
Taipei CNA in English		13,960	
Taipei CHINA POST in English			7,840
Taipei CHING CHI JIH PAO in Chinese			---
Taipei CHUNG KUO SHIH PAO in Chinese			---
Taipei CHUNG YANG JIH PAO in Chinese			---

BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLIC RELATIONS
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Taipei LIEN HO PAO in Chinese		---
Taipei TZU LI WAN PAO in Chinese		450

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Moscow to Japan in Japanese	8,230
Moscow International Service in Mandarin	6,980
Moscow to Southeast in Mandarin	70
Moscow Radio Peace & Progress to Asia-Pacific Region in Mandarin	2,310
Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian	9,970
Khabarovsk Domestic Service in Russian	390
Vladivostok Domestic Service in Russian	1,200

VIETNAM

Hanoi International Service in Mandarin	---
Hanoi VNA in English	---